

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	Indochina	REPORT NO.	25X1A
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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Administration

1. The Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) is currently attempting to reduce the number of employees in the Administrative and Resistance Committees and technical bureaus of North Vietnam. This slash in personnel is designed to reduce administrative expenses and at the same time to weed out all but the most efficient workers. 1 Those employees who are retained are being given raises in salary and family allowances on the theory that better work will be produced if the workers are less burdened with family cares.
2. Administrative and military personnel are currently undergoing political review courses. During the three-month course, papers are prepared on such topics as "The DRV National Forces: History and Development", "Why and for Whom are we Fighting?", "Long-Term Hardship will Lead to Victory", and "Self Reliance: One Must not Depend on Outside Aid". At the close of the courses self-criticism meetings are held and exemplary cadres chosen.
3. Women are now being used to replace drafted administrative personnel. At the end of the current school year it is also planned to take students who have completed the seventh year of Secondary school as apprentices in the technical organizations.

Military Rations

4. As the result of Chinese Communist aid, each regular soldier will be provided with the following year's supply of personal equipment:

three blue suits

two pairs of Chinese shoes and socks

one mosquito net

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STATE	#X	ARMY	#X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC							
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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X", Field Distribution By "#")

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one blanket

two meters of cloth to be used as a ground sheet

5. The following rice rations are allotted each soldier:
  - a. 1.3 kilograms per day, the normal troop ration
  - b. 1.7 kilograms per day during operations
  - c. an additional 2.1 kilograms per month for officers
  - d. an additional two kilograms per month for seniority 2
6. In order to encourage women to work, allowances for wives have been abolished. Children's allowances, however, have been increased from 5.5 to 12 kilograms of rice per child.

#### Economic Situation

7. In an attempt to increase the value of the Ho Chi Minh piaster, the DRV is withdrawing all piasters issued by the Ministry of Finance and substituting new notes issued by the National Bank. The new note is worth ten of the former Ministry of Finance notes. The current official piaster rate is ten Indochinese piaster to 7,200 Ministry of Finance piasters or 720 new National Bank notes. The free market rate is ten Indochinese piasters to 8,000 Ministry of Finance piasters or 800 National Bank piasters.

8. The following are examples of current food prices in the DRV zone:

rice	Ho Chi Minh piasters (HCM \$)	180,000 for two baskets
salt	HCM \$	35,000 for about one-half a pound
oil	HCM \$	20,000 for 75 cubic centimeters
chickens	HCM \$	20,000 each
ducks	HCM \$	15,000 each

Vegetables are very inexpensive.

#### Education

9. A three-grade superior-primary school (ecole primaire-superieure) has been established in every DRV district. Teachers in these schools are responsible to the Provincial Education Bureau. The students are permitted to organize student-led groups. Political lectures are given weekly by a member of the local Administrative and Resistance Committee. Auto-criticism meetings are also organized.
10. Schools are found in the following places:
  - a. Bac Giang Province: Ngo Sy Lien, Hiep Hoa and Bao Quai schools.
  - b. Bac Ninh Province: Han Thuyen school.
  - c. Thai Nguyen Province: Luong Ngoc Quyen school.
  - d. Lang Son Province: Lang Son Secondary School, which was recently established.
  - e. Tuyen Quang Province: Tan Trai school.

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11. In addition to the above schools, two five-year teachers colleges were recently established in the China border area near Chungking.

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1. Comment. Presumably this reduction in personnel is also part of the program to retain only convinced Communists in the government bureaus.

2. Comment. The length of service was not specified

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